

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, March 8, 2022 Northcentral Technical College 1000 W. Campus Drive Wausau, WI 54401

Zoom: March 8, 2022 NTC Board of Trustees Meeting

1:00 p.m. Call to order, compliance with Open Meetings Law (Wis. Stat. 19.81-19.88)

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

II. PUBLIC INPUT

a. Public Comments

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Approval of minutes from February 8, 2022 Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

Motion: That the Northcentral Technical College District Board approve the meeting minutes from the February 8, 2022 Board of Trustees Regular Meeting.

Voice vote required to approve.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

a. Approval of 2022-2023 Final Capital Budget – Roxanne Lutgen

Motion: That the Northcentral Technical College District Board approve the 2022-2023 Capital Budget not to exceed the \$12,967,320 capital expenditures budget, funded through capital borrowings of \$11,500,000, anticipated donations of \$100,000 and anticipated fund balance usage of \$1,367,320, including identified items exceeding \$50,000.

Voice vote required to approve.

V. CONSENT VOTING AGENDA

- a. Approval of Consent Voting Agenda
 - i. Receipts + Expenditures
 - ii. Personnel Changes

Motion: That the Northcentral Technical College Board approve the Consent Voting Agenda including:

- i. Receipts + Expenditures
- ii. Personnel Changes

Roll call vote required to approve.

VI. BOARD DEVELOPMENT

a. Virtual Tour of Antigo + Wittenberg Campuses – Jeannie Worden



VII. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

- a. President's Report
 - i. Comments from Informational Update
 - ii. <u>Capital Projects Monitoring Report</u> Roxanne Lutgen
 - iii. Facility Updates Rob Elliott
 - iv. Spring Commencement Update Sarah Dillon
- b. Chairperson's Report
 - i. Spring Board Appointment Update
 - 1. Appointment Hearing: Friday, March, 18, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.
 - ii. WTC DBA Spring Meeting: April 28-30, 2022 at MATC Milwaukee + Virtual
 - iii. Reminder to Complete Statement of Economic Interests (SEI) by 5/2/2022
 - 1. Email was sent to Board members on January 11 from ETHNoReply@wisconsin.gov
- c. Information
 - i. Upcoming Meetings + Events
 - ii. Good News

VIII. MEETING ADJOURN

Note: Meetings of the Northcentral Technical College District Board are held in compliance with Wisconsin's "Open Meetings Law".

Mission: Northcentral Technical College provides high-quality, learner and employer focused, educational pathways committed to enriching lives and strengthening the economy.

NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES TOPIC SUMMARY SHEET

MEETING DATE: March 8, 2022

TOPIC: 2022-2023 Capital Budget Planning

POLICY 1.3.1 Budgeting – may not cause or allow budgeting which contains too little information, as determined by the Board to enable *credible projection* of revenues and expenses, separation of capital and operational items, cash flow, and disclosure of *planning assumptions*.

1.6.5 Asset Protection - may not make any purchases or commit the organization to any *expenditure of greater than* \$50,000.

INTERPRETATION: *Credible projections* are based on multiyear plans supporting community benefits statements and executive limitations. *Planning assumptions* are based on multi-year capital expenditure plans and funding sources. *Expenditures greater than* \$50,000 must have board approval.

DATA/RESULTS: Attached are three planning documents.

- 1. 2022-2023 Capital Expenditure Funding Sources shows the funding plan for the next year's capital budget.
- 2. 2022-2023 Capital Expenditure Summary shows categories of capital expenditures for next year's capital budget.
- 3. 2022-2023 Capital Equipment Budget Requests provides additional information and identifies expenditures greater than \$50,000 requiring board approval.

At this meeting today, NTC is presenting the Board with a resolution to approve capital expenditures of \$12,967,320, which includes a May 2022 borrowing of \$11,500,000, and anticipated donations of \$100,000 and anticipated fund balance usage of \$1,367,320.

AGENDA CATEGORY: PROPOSED MOTION:

• Regular Voting Agenda

Approval not to exceed the \$12,967,320 capital expenditures budget, funded through capital borrowings of \$11,500,000, anticipated donations of \$100,000 and anticipated fund balance usage of \$1,367,320, including identified items exceeding \$50,000.

CERTIFICATION OF ACCURACY: I, your CEO, certify that the information contained in this report is true as of this date.

Signed	Dr. Gram Worden	Dated3/8/2022	
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2022-2023 Capital Expenditure Funding Sources

\$12,967,320	Total Capital Expenditures Budget	
\$11,500,000	Funded through Annual Capital Borrowings	
\$1,367,320	Funded through Fund Balance	
\$100,000	Funded through Anticipated Donations	
\$0	Funded through Anticipated Grants	

2022-2023 Capital Expenditure Summary

<u>Description</u>	Fiscal Year <u>2022-2023</u>	<u>Subtotal</u>
Previously Committed Capital Expenditures Distance Education Leases	\$115,320	
Licenses & Other Items	\$1,861,000	\$1,976,320
Capital Contingency Fund	\$300,000	, ,
Technology Maintenance		\$300,000
Advanced Technology Initiatives Microcomputers and Consulting	\$3,013,000 \$906,000	
Network Equipment	\$465,000	\$4,384,000
High Priority Educational Needs		
Equipment and Software	\$2,899,000	\$2,899,000
Long Range Facility Plan Recommendations		
Regional Campuses	\$1,523,000	
Central Campus	\$1,885,000	
		<u>\$3,408,000</u>
Total Capital Expenditures Budget		\$12,967,320

2022-2023 Capital Equipment Budget Request (Items \$50,000 or more)

Division	Item Requested	(N) New (R) Replacement (P) Previously Committed		Impact (FTE, Headcount, Location, Program, etc.)	Depreciable Life	Strategic Direction College Goals	Cost	Estimated start date	Estimated end date	Estimated date all proceeds spent
Information Technology	District-Wide	Р	Capital Contingency for Information Technology	IT improvement projects require contingency funding as project needs arise	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$100,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Information Technology	Microcomputers & Consulting	R	Maintain 3-year replacement rotation for lab workstations and 5-year employee rotation	Workstation replacements per the long-term computer refresh plan.	5 years	Growth and Innovation	\$400,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Information Technology	Microcomputers & Consulting	Р	Advanced Consulting for PeopleSoft Software Maintenance	District-wide and distance learner impact.	Non- Depreciable	Growth and Innovation	\$506,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Information Technology	Network Equipment – Servers / Repairs	R	Data Cabling & Telephones in remodeled areas	Renovations related to building remodeling.	15 years	Growth and Innovation	\$50,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Information Technology	Network Equipment – Servers / Repairs	N	Cameras and Equipment for Safety & Security	Increased Safety and Security for all students and staff.	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$75,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Information Technology	Network Equipment – Servers / Repairs	R	Server/Network/PC Replacement	Regular maintenance and replacement of servers that provide services and communications within the network, as well as the network itself.	5 years	Growth and Innovation	\$200,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Information Technology	Network Equipment – Servers / Repairs	Р	PeopleSoft Server Upgrades	Required server maintenance	Non- Depreciable	Growth and Innovation	\$115,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Information Technology	District-Wide	Р	Workday Implementation & Licenses	Workday is our replacement for PeopleSoft HR, Finance, and Student.	Non- Depreciable	Growth and Innovation	\$2,338,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Information Technology	District-Wide	Р	Workday People Resources from Unborrowed Funds/Use of Fund Balance	Workday is our replacement for PeopleSoft HR, Finance, and Student.	Non- Depreciable	Growth and Innovation	\$225,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Information Technology	District-Wide	Р	Other Software development staffing	In-house staff working on software research and development	Non- Depreciable	Growth and Innovation	\$450,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Information Technology	Distance Ed Leases	Р	Charter and other providers (Wide Area Network)	District-wide and distance learner impact. Provides connectivity to regional campuses and the Internet. Impacts all students, employees, and stakeholders.	Non- Depreciable	Growth and Innovation	\$74,820	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Information Technology	Licenses	Р	Microsoft software and other software licenses	Software licenses necessary to conduct business and training throughout the District.	Non- Depreciable	Growth and Innovation	\$1,700,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023

2022-2023 Capital Equipment Budget Request (Items \$50,000 or more)

Division	Item Requested	(N) New (R) Replacement (P) Previously Committed	Definition	Impact (FTE, Headcount, Location, Program, etc.)	Depreciable Life	Strategic Direction College Goals	Cost	Estimated start date	Estimated end date	Estimated date all proceeds spent
Facilities	District-Wide	P	Construction Contingency	Building remodeling projects require contingency funding as project needs arise	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$100,000	7/1/22022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Facilities	Wausau Campus	R	A & F Elevator Replacement/Controls Replacement	Life cycle replacement	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$300,000	7/1/22022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Facilities	Wausau Campus	R	Auto Service Area Blacktop Resurfacing	Life cycle replacement	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$125,000	7/1/22022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Facilities	Wausau Campus	R	AME Lab Floor Refinishing	Life cycle replacement	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$125,000	7/1/22022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Facilities	Wausau Campus	R	CHS HVAC Upgrades	Life cycle replacement	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$100,000	7/1/22022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Facilities	Wausau Campus	R	Corridor Carpet Replacement	Life cycle replacement	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$100,000	7/1/22022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Facilities	Wausau Campus	R	H Building Air Handler	Life cycle replacement	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$125,000	7/1/22022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Facilities	Wausau Campus	R	Lighting Upgrade to LED	Lighting upgrades to LED	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$50,000	7/1/22022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Facilities	Wausau Campus	R	Maintenance Equipment	Maintenance Equipment	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$50,000	7/1/22022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Facilities	Wausau Campus	R	Michigan Tech Electrical Engineering Renovation	Electrical Engineering Lab Upgrades	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$50,000	7/1/22022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Facilities	Wausau Campus	N	Red Shed	Additional Learning Laboratory upgrades to lighting, heat, and restrooms.	25 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$250,000	7/1/22022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Facilities	Wausau Campus	R	Sidewalk Replacement/Curb Replacement	Sidewalk/curb replacement on Wausau Campus.	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$75,000	7/1/22022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Facilities	Wausau Campus	R	Video Production Renovation	Renovation for the Communication Technology Center of Excellence	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$300,000	7/1/22022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Facilities	Merrill Campus	R	Merrill Site Improvements	CDL program site expansion and improvements	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$800,000	7/1/22022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Facilities	Agriculture Center of Excellence	N	Feed Storage Canopy Building	New feed storage canopy building without foundation.	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$50,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Facilities	Agriculture Center of Excellence	N	Second Electrical and Gas Service	Second Electrical and Gas Service for additional farm operations.	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$85,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Facilities	Agriculture Center of Excellence	N	Storage/Machine Building	New storage building for machinery.	25 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$300,000	7/1/22022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Facilities	All Campuses	R	Regional Campus Updates	Beautification and signage updates.	15 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$200,000	7/1/22022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023

2022-2023 Capital Equipment Budget Request (Items \$50,000 or more)

Division	Item Requested	(N) New (R) Replacement (P) Previously Committed		Impact (FTE, Headcount, Location, Program, etc.)	Depreciable Life	Strategic Direction College Goals	Cost	Estimated start date	Estimated end date	Estimated date all proceeds spent
Learning	District-Wide	N/R	Emergency Dollars for Learning Capital equipment and projects	Emergency capital dollars for equipment requiring unexpected replacement/fix or new initiative equipment needed during the year.	5 years	Growth and Innovation	\$146,700	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Learning	Wausau Campus	R	Dental Equipment	Six Dental Operatory chairs – periodic replacements due to high use in the clinic.	5 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$109,800	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Learning	Wausau Campus	N	Industry 4.0 Health	Industry 4.0 Health Equipment	5 years	Growth and Innovation	\$700,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Learning	Wausau Campus	N	Industry 4.0 Al	Industry 4.0 Artificial Intelligence Equipment	5 years	Growth and Innovation	\$300,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Learning	Wausau Campus	N	Infrastructure Bill	Equipment to support the new federal/state Infrastructure Bill.	5 years	Growth and Innovation	\$150,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Learning	Wausau Campus	Р	Miller Welding Agreement	Leasing of new welding equipment that allows NTC's welding lab to stay on the cutting edge of welding equipment and in line with industry standards (year 3 of 3)	Non- Depreciable	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$63,024	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Learning	Wausau Campus	N	CNC Plasma Cutter	Shape cutting skills are critical for our learners, in our employment climate of increasing automation.	5 years	Growth and Innovation	\$59,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Learning	Merrill Public Safety Center of Excellence	N	Two CDL Class A Tractors	Two additional Class A tractors required with CDL expansion at \$150,000 each.	5 years	Growth and Innovation	\$300,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Learning	Merrill Public Safety Center of Excellence	N	CDL Class A Trailer	Additional Class A trailer required with CDL expansion.	5 years	Growth and Innovation	\$65,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Learning	Merrill Public Safety Center of Excellence	R	Mobile Ventilation Prop	Replacing current equipment that is 20 years old	5 years	Continuous Quality Improvement	\$75,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Learning	Merrill Public Safety Center of Excellence	N	Tractor with loader, box blade, forks & snow pusher	Purchasing a tractor to replace a leased tractor for unloading freight and maintaining the 38-acre NTC complex.	5 years	Growth and Innovation	\$155,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Learning	Wausau Campus	N	CollegeNet Scheduling Software	Scheduling Software to improve the scheduling process and integrate with Workday. Total Implementation Cost: \$91,000 (\$35,000 implementation fee, \$46,000 One-time license fee, and \$10,000 year-one annual fee). \$55,000 budgeted under Learning, \$36,000 budgeted under IT.	5 years	Growth and Innovation	\$91,000	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023

NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES TOPIC SUMMARY SHEET

MEETING DATE: March 8, 2022

TOPIC: Receipts & Expenditures

POLICY 1.1 – General Executive Constraint – The Chief Executive Officer (CEO), in execution of her duties, shall not cause or allow any practice, activity, decision or organizational circumstance which is either imprudent or in violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics or that results in failure to be accredited.

INTERPRETATION: To avoid *violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics* NTC will follow Wisconsin statute 38.12 **District Board Duties (2)** "...All expenditures exceeding \$2500 shall be approved by the district board." Also, in compliance with Wisconsin statute 38.12(4) District board duties, "The publication proceedings shall include a statement of receipts and expenditures in the aggregate."

DATA/RESULTS: The following Status of Funds listing receipts and expenditures including operating transfers in the aggregate is included for informational purposes as of **January 31, 2022** (preliminary).

F1-F7 Revenue: \$62,462,574.09 F1-F7 Expense: \$58,389,160.75

AGENDA CATEGORY: PROPOSED MOTION:

Consent Agenda (Motion is included with consent agenda.)

CERTIFICATION OF ACCURACY: I, your CEO, certify that the information contained in this report is true as of this date.

Signed: Dated: March 8, 2022

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES TOPIC SUMMARY SHEET

MEETING DATE: March 8, 2022

TOPIC: Personnel Changes

POLICY 1.1 – General Executive Constraint – The Chief Executive Officer (CEO), in execution of her duties, shall not cause or allow any practice, activity, decision or organizational circumstance which is either imprudent or in violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics or that results in failure to be accredited.

INTERPRETATION: NTC will follow Wisconsin Statute 118.22 (2) "...No teacher may be employed... except by a majority vote of the full membership of the board. Nothing in this section prevents the modification or termination of a contract by mutual agreement of the teacher and the board."

DATA/RESULTS: A request is made to approve the following personnel changes:

New Hires:

- Michael Brown Instructional Assistant, Wood Science
- Curtis Leszczynski Video Production Specialist
- John Lor IT Helpdesk Technician
- Keith Matz Instructional Assistant, CDL
- Howard Pulkowski Instructional Assistant, CDL
- Kaya Saia Student Records & Credit for Prior Learning Specialist
- Steven Sprasky Academic Coach, Math

Resignations:

- Angela Cook Custodian
- LeeAnn Isham-Her Health Learning Resource Lab and Simulation Coordinator
- Jennifer Schult Administrative Assistant, School of Public Safety
- Leah Thunder-Gajda Administrative Assistant, Alternative High School
- Deborah Yellow Thunder Accountant

Retirement:

- Ann Bauch Faculty, Certified Nursing Assistant
- Kevin Pfingsten Maintenance

Terminations/Non-Renewals:

None

AGENDA CATEGORY: PROPOSED MOTION:

Consent Agenda (Motion is included with consent agenda.)

CERTIFICATION OF ACCURACY: I, your CEO, certify that the information contained in this report is true as of this date.

Signed Or . Jeans Worden Dated 3/8/2022

NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES TOPIC SUMMARY SHEET

MEETING DATE:

TOPIC:

March 8, 2022

Capital Projects Monitoring Report

POLICY 1.6 – Asset Protection – Capital project monitoring reports will be presented to the Board. **INTERPRETATION:** The Board reviews the year-to-date financial progress on the fiscal year's capital projects. **DATA/RESULTS:** All projects are on track to completion within dollar amounts allotted. • See the following 2021-2022 Capital Expenditure Summary of Projects. **AGENDA CATEGORY:** PROPOSED MOTION: Other Information that may (None required) properly come before the board **CERTIFICATION OF ACCURACY:** I, your CEO, certify that the information contained in this report is true as of this date. Signed Dr. Granis Worden Dated March 8, 2022

Northcentral Technical College Capital Projects Activity Fiscal Year 2021-2022 As of February 14, 2022

Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Expenditures	Remaining Balance	% Complete
Technology Hubs - Antigo/Phillips	68,025	68,025	0	100%
Virtual Learning Lab Software *	166,273	133,619	32,655	80%
Predictive Analytics *	13,000	11,795	1,205	91%
Student Services/E101-E102 Renovation *	418,532	417,564	968	100%
User Experience (UX Project) *	480,979	439,156	41,823	91%
New System Infrastructure/ERP Consulting *	846,000	0	846,000	0%
Workday	2,465,767	2,441,266	24,501	99%
Starfish Software Implementation *	40,000	33,551	6,449	84%
Phillips Campus Roof Replacement *	59,283	52,972	6,311	89%
Scheduling Software *	92,989	92,989	0	100%
Tableau Implementation *	45,000	44,646	354	99%
Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering Renovation *	653,950	606,132	47,817	93%
I-Wing/Industry 4.0 Addition & Equipment *	3,291,431	1,466,582	1,824,848	45%
CHS HVAC Upgrades	400,000	281,957	118,043	70%
Ag-Vet Tech Reno	1,334,276	1,213,113	121,162	91%
Other General IT Projects	4,587,464	3,000,595	1,586,869	65%
Other General Facilities Projects	1,873,244	1,617,155	256,089	86%
Instructional Equipment	1,710,756	1,123,841	586,915	66%

^{*}Continued Project – does not include the amount spent in prior fiscal years.



Updated: 2/10/22

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Date	Event	Troy Brown	Sherry Bunten	Michael Endreas	Tom Felch	Keith Langenhahn	Lee Lo	Charlie Paulson	Paul Proulx	Heather Renzelmann
2021										
MONDAY July 12	Annual Organizational Meeting	Х	Х	Х	Х		Χ	Χ	Χ	
July 15-17	WTC DBA Summer Meeting (MSTC-Stevens Point + Zoom)		Х						Х	
Aug 10	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting	Х	Е	Х	Х		Χ	Е	Χ	
Sept 21	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting	Х	Х	Х	Е		Е	Х	Χ	
Oct 19	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting	Х	Х	Х	Х		Χ	Х	Χ	
Oct 28-29	WTC DBA Legal Issues Seminar + Fall Meeting (Virtual)								Χ	
Dec 7	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting	Х	Х	Х	Х		Χ	Χ	Х	Х
Dec 18	Commencement (NTC – E101/E102)	Χ			Х				Χ	
2022										
Jan 11	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting	X	Х	Х	X		Χ	Е	Χ	X
Jan 27-29	WTC DBA Winter Meeting (LTC-Cleveland + Virtual)									
Feb 8	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting	Е	Х	Х	X	Х	Е	Χ	Χ	X
Mar 8	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
Apr 5	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
Apr 28-30	WTC DBA Spring Meeting (MATC – Milwaukee)									
May 3	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
May 21	Commencement (Wausau West Fieldhouse)									
June 7	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Public									
	Budget Hearing at 12:00pm, Regular Meeting at 1:15pm)									
All Dogular NT(Roard of Trustees Meetings begin at 1:00pm and are held on the	11/01/00/1	`ampua laa	otod ot 100	10 M/ Came	aua Driva I	Maria \M	I E 4 4 0 4 in 1	Daam D10	Λ.

All Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meetings begin at 1:00pm and are held on the Wausau Campus located at 1000 W. Campus Drive, Wausau, WI 54401 in Room D100 -Timberwolf Conference Center unless otherwise noted.



Feb 02

2022

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Sixteen members of the Tomahawk Hatchet eSports team traveled to Northcentral Technical College in Waysau on Monday, Jan. 24, to tour the campus, talk with NTC's eSports coaches and game in NTC's stadium.

Photos submitted by Paula Norman









2022

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NTC extends application waiver

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) is extending an offer that gives learners the opportunity to apply to the college for free. Application fees are currently being waived for everyone interested in applying to NTC, which is a savings of \$30.

"This is our way of helping students get started at NTC and supporting their dreams during difficult times," said Sarah Dillon, vice president of student services and regional campuses at NTC.

Those who are interested in applying for free also have the opportunity to meet with a career coach or financial aid specialist and schedule a tour of campus including Timberwolf Suites, NTC's partnership for student housing.

To take advantage of this offer, visit www.ntc. edu/apply. Anyone who would like to explore campus and have their questions answered can schedule an individual tour at www.ntc.edu/



Feb 09

2022

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Wisconsin Agribusiness Classic returns to Madison

After a virtual event last year due to Coronavirus restrictions, the Wisconsin Agri-Business Association is proud to announce the successful return of the 2022 Wisconsin Agribusiness Classic to an in-person event. The event, which was held at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison, welcomed over 900 participants, exhibitors, presenters and guests.

Presented in partnership with UW Division of Extension and the UW College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the three-day event featured over 40 Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) continuing education units, as well as an extensive trade show for networking and highlighting what is new in the industry.

"The agriculture industry is all about relationships," said Wisconsin Agri-Business Association Executive Director Tom Bressner. "We were excited to be able to bring everyone back together in-person for this historic and highly sought-after event."

Tuesday's schedule also included the 2022 Wisconsin Agri-Business Association (WABA) Annual Membership Meeting, where the following board members were elected: Garry Gard, Didion Inc.; Tony Grapsas, Jay-Mar Inc.; Howard Hartmann, Hartmann Farms LLC; and Ken Jahnke, Premier Cooperative. The 2022-23 officer team was also named and includes President: Howard Hartmann, Hartmann Farms LLC; Vice President: Garry Gard, Didion Inc; and Treasurer: Ashley Gausman, Rosen's Inc.

Recipients of the 2021 WABA Awards, recognized on Tuesday, were:

· Distinguished Organization Award (for exemplary industry professionalism):

Premier Cooperative

- · Education Award (for leadership and commitment to educational excellence): Amber Radatz and Eric Cooley, Co-Directors, Discovery Farms
- Outstanding Service to Industry (for dedication and support to WABA and its members): Scott Firlus, United Cooperative
- · Friend of WABA Award: Lori Bowman, (retired) Director, Agrichemical Management Bureau, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
- · President's Service Award (for dedication, service and leadership): Rob Evans, Rosen's Inc.
- · Board Member Service Award (for full-term Board of Directors service): Bruce Ceranske, Legacy Seeds, Inc.

WABA's 2020-21 Scholarship Recipients were acknowledged daily and included Sofia Weinstein, UW-Madison; Dylan Herbrand and Brandon Weigel, UW-Platteville; Lacey Nelson, UW-River Falls; Hunter Lemler, UW-Stevens Point; Alexandrea Kautzer and Lilly Kussman, Fox Valley Technical College; Hannah Schmitz, Lakeshore Technical College; Makayla Mcglin and Megan Timm, Northcentral Technical College; Peter Boland, Southwest Wisconsin Technical College; Pakadreal Yaj, Western Technical College; and Kendra Jentz, Natalie Roe, Joseph Schuh and Tristan Wirkus, Wisconsin FFA Foundation, WABA proudly provides over \$20,000 in scholarships to students from across the state each year.

Save the date for the next Wisconsin Agribusiness Classic, January 10-12, 2023

Wittenberg Enterprise and Birnamwood News



Northcentral extends free application waiver

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being waived for everyone interested in applying to NTC, which is a savings of \$30.

"This is our way of helping students get started at NTC and

supporting their dreams during difficult times," said Sarah Dillon, vice president of student services.

Those who are interested in applying for free also have the

opportunity to meet with a career coach or financial aid specialist and schedule a tour of campus including Timberwolf Suites, NTC's partnership for student housing.



Medford, The Star News



Rib Lake board looks to Ice Age trail to boost tourism

EMILY GOJMERAC REPORTER

Rib Lake is always looking for ways to bring more people into the community. An idea a resident brought up to the Village Board on Wednesday night, they hope may just be the ticket.

Charles "Butch" Clendenning submitted an idea to the board of making Rib Lake Ice Age Trail a member of the Ice Age Trail Alliance (IATA). The IATA promotes the unique qualities that make the trail, and the community it travels through, a meaningful destination.

Once the IATA has accepted Rib Lake into their alliance, a sign will be placed on either side of town to signify that the town is now part of the IATA. Rib Lake

will be put into the IATA's publications as a camping, hiking, and outdoor activity destination.

To make this membership possible, it would be a one time fee of \$2,500, which President Bill Schreiner added could be paid with the room tax, because that money has to be spent on tourism.

"This is a great way to bring people into town and highlight what Rib Lake has to offer," Clendenning said.

In other business:

The McComb Ave./Landall Ave. road and lighting project will be starting May 1, with hopes to be completed by early August. Along with this lighting project, plans for the sidewalks will become wider, and that will leave room for two 15-foot driving lanes.

The water tower rehabilitation project is on hold due to funding challenges. The board agreed that the chances of the village getting a grant through the Clean Water Fund, Safe Drinking Water loan program are much higher and worth waiting for.

The Rib Lake squad truck has been delivered, equipment will be completely installed by March 1. Police Chief Derek Beckstrand hopes to sell the old squad car to Northcentral Technical College (NTC) to use as a training vehicle for their Criminal Justice program.

Garbage disposal rates will increase from \$27/month to \$29/month.

Village hall will have new master keys made for all village owned buildings and will remain in the village office in case of emergencies due to several locks being changed on buildings without the villages' knowledge.

Russ Bullis said "When I had to go to the ambulance garage, I only had one key that worked. We need access to these buildings in case of an emergency."

Rib Lake Fish & Game can continue to use Tannery Pond to raise the walleyes.

Motion moved to go into closed session

Back into open session, it was moved by Bullis, seconded by Bulks that the Village buys Aspirus' interest in the Rib Lake Clinic building for \$30,000.00, per the terms of the Agreement for Construction and Operation of a Medical Clinic Building between the Village and Aspirus from June 1997, which permitted the Village to purchase Aspirus' interest in the improvements at a discounted purchase price to reflect the Village's share of the initial costs to purchase the real estate and construct the building.





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Spaghetti supper



Contributed

The Antigo Lions Club provided a free good-luck spaghetti supper to the Antigo High School hockey team Wednesday on the eve of their regional game against Waupaca. The meal was held at Swartzendruber's Supper Club. Assistant coach Frances Herzog, left, and head coach Matt Borneman hold the "good luck" cake.

NTC, UW-Stevens Point partner to expand transfer opportunities

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) and UW-Stevens Point announce a new opportunity for local learners to earn their associate of arts and associate of science in liberal arts. The approval for a new liberal arts transfer program between the institutions was granted by the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System on Feb. 11.

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"We recognize that current NTC students and NTC alumni will benefit from this partnership," said Worden. "As Wisconsin's employers continually demand a better educated, more nimble workforce that can adapt to changing demands, we are excited to partner with UW-Stevens Point to provide educational opportunities that retain talent in north central Wisconsin and support our local economy."

Antigo Daily Journal



County assesses strategic goals

By John Liesveld

jliesveld@antigojournal.com

What do the men and women charged with the governance of rural Langlade County hold in common with a man named Edwin Locke, an 83-year old dean's professor (emeritus) in College Park, a city clutched between the urban bustle of Baltimore and Washington, D.C., in in Prince George's County Maryland?

That answer to that question is in the word

Plan guides review of accomplishments and future endeavors

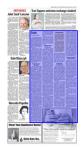
"goals," and it was illustrated at the February Langlade County Administrative Group Committee meeting, when members assessed the past two years of the county's efforts in charting a positive path forward during an era of continuous and sometimes difficult change, as documented in the Langlade County 2021-2023 Strategic Plan.

Created in 2020, the plan provided a general roadmap and a framework for more specific department-level objectives, that Langlade County sought to prioritize in a time of rapidly changing social, political, environmental and economical environments. During the meeting, members took an opportunity to assess and determine where they might redouble

efforts on some goals and also begin discussion for possible updates when a new board takes over after the spring election.

At the time of its creation in 2020, no strategic plan existed and the County Board deemed it a critical component in holding a steady and advantageous course to the future, by writing down several overarching county goals, and therein lies the connection to Locke.

See Goals Page A3



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From A01



Goals

Continued from Page A1

Locke helped to conceive an entire goal-setting theory in the 1960s that draws links between goal-setting and task performance. Essentially, it states that setting goals, accompanied by critical assessment of progress, provides a motivating foundation in efforts to achieve those goals.

And that was the aim of the county's plan, With assistance from the Northcentral Technical College (NTC) Workforce Training and Professional Development Department, county supervisors and officials developed the plan in 2020 through an educational grant from the Public Service Commission that covered 50% of the plan's implementation costs.

Foresight of guidance and cohesion

During the plan's February assessment, County Administrator Jason Hilger and Administrative Group Committee members worked their way down a list of several inclusive categories framed within the document, discussing progress the county had made on various items. The meeting provided the venue to begin evaluating that progress.

"The county has gone through and experienced some significant changes over the past several years, environmental and cultural, that have caused the County Board to step back and reevaluate its strategic position and goals for the future," the document's writers penned in the opening paragraph of the plan.

According to the plan, the board's intention in 2020 was to create a guide that articulates present and future priorities to foster an "alignment, clarity and focus" within Langlade County government operations, including all county departments. Additionally, it provides for a constructive method by which the county communicates and interacts with the community.

"Personally I think that the strategic plan is a very good document," Hilger told the Antigo Daily Journal (ADJ) following the meeting. "I think that the topics touched upon by the board are likely good topics for every strategic plan to have."

The plan framed various goals under four categories: internal efficiency, community facing goals, revenue generating and mandated services. Those categories are driven by a set of seven core values such as stewardship, respect through diversity, and a drive for excellence.

Within each category, supervisors defined more specific goals, a rationale behind those goals and metrics that would allow them to measure progress and remain strategically focused.

Significant moment every two years

In Langlade County, supervisors serve what are known as "concurrent" terms of office as opposed to "staggered" terms. This means that every two years, Langlade County voters enter the polling booth to cast their votes for the supervisors in all of Langlade County's 21 districts. Depending on the number of incumbents seeking reelection and the number of potential candidates running, an election carries the potential to significantly change the political dynamic of the board-or result in very little change.

Regardless, County Corporation Counsel Robin Stowe raised awareness during the walue of cohesiveness that such a strategic plan carries from one incarnation of the County Board to the next. He pointed out that it provides a starting point for new board members to add new goals, or to strengthen existing goals.

"We took time to do this (plan) and we did extend some money and staff resources in putting (it) together," Stowe said. "And I think with the new board coming in with every two-year term, that is an opportunity to sit down with that new board and ask them, 'what do you want to accomplish in two years?' Because (two years) is all you are really guaranteed."

In the upcoming spring election, April 5, nine sitting board members have filed non-candidacy notifications, clarifying their intent not to run for reelection. That, in conjunction with contested races in at least two districts, will result in a County Board with a significantly different roster.

"This (spring election) is

Read the Document

The 2021-23 strategic plan is a living document and will be reviewed periodically throughout its threeyear cycle and updated annually or as deemed necessary.

For a more comprehensive understanding of the current plan, the complete document can be viewed by visiting the county's website on the County Clerk's page, or navigate to www.co.langlade.wi.us/if/files/Langlade.%20 County%20Strategic%20 Plan%20-%20Final.pdf.

going to be a drastic change on the board," Hilger said. "So the intent is to bring the strategic plan back to the board in May or June because they (the new board) will be seated in April—the intent will be to update the plan this fall."

Checking off the accomplished goals

Some of the accomplishments since 2020 that the Hilger pointed out included ways the county attempted to boost morale through employee and staff engagement, clearly defining the priorities and accountability for the county's mandated services, preserving and enhancing use of Langlade County's natural resources, elevating community quality of life and many others.

One of the many building blocks to creating "alignment, clarity and focus" that the committee's February meeting identified was communication. Improving communication involved efforts in breaking down silos between county departments and employees as well as a focused drive to augment effective flow of accurate information between the county and the members of the public and area businesses

Hilger identified successes that demonstrated openness to community input such as several public hearings on various topics, issues, proposals, improvements and other ongoing projects within the county.

One recent example includes work toward eventually expanding broadband internet service to every Langlade County resident. In conjunction with the Langlade County Economic Development Corporation along with several city and town officials, local organizations and internet service providers (ISPs), Langlade County has been making consistent strides on the broadband front. A project currently in the works will extend several miles of new fiber through the towns of Kent and Elcho, bringing broadband high-speed internet to many residents and businesses. A Public Service Commission grant will cover about half the project's \$700,000 price tag

Integrity, communication and future of plan

During the meeting, committee members and Hilger identified one of the plans core values, namely integrity through transparency," to help maintain accountability and communication, and to invoke ethical practices in county business. Hilger said that such a focus can help result in fairly and responsibly gaining the public's trust in the county government. He added that accountability ensures good decisions and doing the right thing.

Administrative Group Committee Chair John Medo, who also serves as supervisor of District 19, sees a lot of value in maintaining a strong strategic plan for the county. During the meeting he expressed anticipation into checking off many of the goals already reached.

"I look forward to ... getting a few more items in (the plan)," Medo said. "And as people come up with new stuff, let's get it on (the plan)."

While it is still too early to speculate on where any updates and revision to the plan might provide the most benefit, from Hilger's perspective, there are several definite strengths of the current plan that he hopes will be retained in further plans.

However, he remains open and interested in what future goals the next board might choose.







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"We know that NTC students desire to transfer to UW-Stevens Point and we are thrilled to be able to provide this seamless pathway for them," said NTC President Dr. Jeannie Worden. "This agreement ensures learners have the opportunity to obtain their baccalaureate degree locally and local employers have access to the skilled workforce they need."

"Students are the clear winners with these partnerships," said UW-Stevens Point Chancellor Dr. Thomas Gibson. "Each of our institutions has an important role in our communities. As strong partners in our communities' success, UW-Stevens Point and NTC are committed to meeting the needs of our students and their families and enhancing opportunities for all residents."

Working collaboratively, UW-Stevens Point and NTC will provide affordable, accessible pathways to bachelor's degrees while positively contributing to Wisconsin's statewide attainment goal for 60% of Wisconsin adults to hold a postsecondary credential by 2027. The collaborative degree program contains elements designed to focus on career pathways and to enhance student success.

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Medford, The Star News



Medford schools seeks industry partners

BY BRIAN WILSON NEWS EDITOR

The Medford Area Public School District is turning to area industry and employers for guidance and help in preparing students with the skills needed to enter the workforce.

On February 17, school officials met with about two dozen area industry leaders to collect input on the type of workforce ready skills needed by students and what sort of investment in technology and equipment upgrades is needed.

According to district curriculum director Laura Lundy, the hope is to partner with area business and industry and secure a Fast Forward Technical Education Grant.

"We are looking for partners to help us educate our high school students. The Medford Area Senior High (MASH) has offered automotive, construction and metals, and manufacturing classes for decades. Unfortunately, after a recent assessment of our current equipment, we have found that we have not been able to keep up with the needs of our community's employers. We would like to change that, and we need your help," Lundy stated in an invitation to business and industry leaders.

The school district is seeking a \$50,000 grant to help purchase automated and computerized equipment in its technical education classes that meets the needs of the community. As part of this grant, they are required to find a 200% match, totaling \$100,000. Lundy explained the match can be either monetary or in the form of equipment.

The school district is also partnering with North-central Technical College to offer dual-credit programs which allow students to graduate high school with a head start toward their technical certifications.

Representatives from local employers such as Phillips-Medisize and Weather Shield spoke of the literally hundreds of job openings they have in their companies in a variety of production, skilled trade and other positions. They spoke of the types of skills students entering the workforce need to have. Some such as representatives from Phillips-Medisize spoke of the increasing amount of automation that is being implemented and noting that there is demand for workers to maintain that equipment.

Following the discussion, they toured the school district's technology education areas with some of the industry representatives noting the equipment in the school's shops was the same as when they attended school there.



District administrator Pat Sullivan spoke about the upcoming referendum which, if approved, will greatly expand the technical education spaces at the high school.

This will give the district the space to add the equipment needed to train students for jobs in high-demand areas.



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Wisconsin Insurance Commissioner Shares Tips For Consumers Filing Claims After Winter Storm Damage

Insurance Commissioner Nathan Houdek is sharing tips and reminders for Wisconsinites who may have experienced property damage as a result of the recent winter storm.

"Ice dams, car accidents, and power outages may have caused damage to property during this week's storm," said Commissioner Nathan Houdek. "If you experienced any damage, it's important to notify your insurance agent or company right away to begin the claim process."

The experts at the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (OCI) also recommend that consumers consider the following tips as they respond to storm damage:

- Make a list of damaged items, including cracks in walls, missing shingles, spoiled food due to a power outage, etc.
- Take photographs of the damages before you begin to clean up
- Don't throw out any damaged property without the claim adjuster's agreement

Consumers can learn more about settling property insurance claims at: https://oci.wi.gov/Documents/

Consumers/PI-084.pdf

"As Wisconsinites recover from this storm, storm chasers who are unlicensed to perform repairs may try to take advantage of the situation," said Commissioner Houdek. "Do your homework before signing any contracts and consider working with your insurance company to identify reliable, licensed contractors."

The Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection offers tips to prevent problems, based on past consumer complaints. Wisconsinites can also contact DATCP's Wisconsin Consumer Protection Hotline at (800) 422-7128 or visit: DATCPHotline@wisconsin.gov to find out if any complaints have been made against a particular business or contractor.

If Wisconsinites encounter any issues with their insurance agent or company, they are encouraged to contact our office to file a complaint. Contact OCI at 1-800-236-8517 or visit the website: https://oci.wi.gov/Pages/Consumers/Filing-a-Complaint.aspx



ISCONSIN NEWS TRACKER

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NTC, UW-Stevens Point team up on liberal arts degrees

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Wausau Pilot & Review

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SCHOOLS

NTC announces criminal justice graduates

February 24, 2022





Leaders from Northcentral Technical College's School of Public Safety join graduates following the school's commencement ceremony in Wausau. Pictured are Zenas Lee, Law Enforcement Academy, front row from left; Anthony Abt, Law Enforcement Academy; Andrew Palmini, Law Enforcement Academy; Anthony Giovanoni, Law Enforcement Academy; Logan Tabat, Jail Academy. Brian Fiene, instructor, back row; Micah Hendrickson, Jail Academy; Paul Clarke, instructor; Matt Kecker, instructor. Photo courtesy NTC.

WAUSAU – Northcentral Technical College has announced its graduates from both the Criminal Justice – Law Enforcement 720 Academy and the Jail Academy Certificate on Dec. 17, 2021.

The Criminal Justice – Law Enforcement 720 Academy prepares learners to enter the workforce as police officers or deputy sheriffs in Wisconsin. Graduates are able to demonstrate tactical skills, conduct investigations and manage emergencies.

Graduates of the Criminal Justice – Law Enforcement 720 Academy include Zenas Lee of Wausau, Anthony Abt of Weston, Andrew Palmini of Wausau, and Anthony Giovanoni of Wausau.

The Jail Academy prepares learners to enter the workforce as correctional officers in county jails in Wisconsin. The 200-hour program focuses on the philosophical and tactical principles of being employed as a correctional officer and can be completed in as little as five weeks at NTC.

Graduates of the Jail Academy include Logan Tabat of Wausau and Micah Hendrickson of Wausau.

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NTC sees increase in those studying supply chain management; but what is the supply chain?

ade Henschel 🛮 Feb 23, 2022 Updated Feb 23, 2022 🔍 0

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WAUSAU, Wis. (WAOW) -- Over the last couple of years, the "supply chain" is a term you've likely heard many times.

But what is it?

Kurt Swanson, Faculty, Supply Chain Management at Northcentral Technical College, said to think of a supply chain as an actual chain of suppliers, each link bringing consumers what they want or need.

But if there's a weak link, the chain is broken. Looking at supply chain management within an organization, there are four pillars: planning, sourcing, operations, and logistics.

Planning is determining demand.

Sourcing is forming partnerships with suppliers.

Operations is the function that turns inputs into outputs

Logistics is the moving of materials.

Over the years, supply chain has become very efficient. Swanson said there's been an increase in rapidly changing consumer demand.

"It's so important that we have those products in the right place at the right time, at the right price, and supply chain management certainly became much more visible and important of meeting consumer demands," said Swanson.

He said along with the pandemic, a scarcity in some materials, congested ports, and a labor shortage made a perfect storm of factors causing the issues we've been seeing, like higher prices and empty shelves.

At Northcentral Technical College, they have been seeing an increase in those pursuing supply chain management.

Swanson said that they started their program in Spring 2018 after supply chain management was identified as a high demand program in the region and state.

This year, their program enrollment was 30% higher than the 2019-2020 school year, after seeing a dip in enrollment last year (2020-2021).

Initially, a large majority of students were already employed in the field, but that's changing.

"We're seeing a shift in that demographics to people who are starting to see the value in moving into supply chain and are currently not working in the field but are looking to get into that role in the future," said Swanson.

He said employers are looking for those who have an understanding of the big picture of a business, and how decisions in one area impact another.

For more information on the supply chain management program at NTC, click here.



'Helping students get started': NTC extends application fee waiver



A driver enters one of the training trucks (wsaw) By Wyatt Heller Published: Feb. 1, 2022 at 7:33 PM CST

WAUSAU, Wis. (WSAW) - Northcentral Technical College announced an extension of its application fee waiver Tuesday.

Currently, the application fee is \$30. Thanks to the waiver, any learner can apply to the college for free.

"This is our way of helping students get started at NTC and supporting their dreams during difficult times," said Sarah Dillon, Vice President of Student Services and Regional Campuses at NTC.

Interested applicants are also able to meet with career coaches, take campus tours and meet with financial aid specialists.

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Student housing is available at Timberwolf Suites.

For those interested in applying, click <u>here</u>.

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Wausau Pilot & Review

COMMUNITY -

The Branch open to non-student participants for the first time in spring 2022 session

February 3, 2022

WAUSAU – <u>The Branch's spring session</u>, which begins later this month, will allow a limited number of residents who are not students to participate for the first time. The program invites those who would benefit from this opportunity to 'upskill' to apply for the spring session. The Branch teaches collaboration, communication, creativity and critical thinking as teams work on challenges sponsored by local businesses. Teams will be made up largely of students from a variety of colleges and universities in central Wisconsin.

The program's spring 2020 session was abruptly canceled due to the pandemic. The Branch will return with a kick off event on Saturday, February 26. The kick off session will be held at Northcentral Technical College's Wausau campus. The Branch is a workforce development initiative introduced by the Greater Wausau Chamber of Commerce, Northcentral Technical College and Church Mutual Insurance Company, S.I. in 2016. The program is an entrepreneurial skills accelerator which is designed to retain talent in central Wisconsin.

Student teams will work on innovation challenges from Church Mutual Insurance Company, S.I. and Ruder Ware LLSC during the session. Interested students can review the spring schedule and apply on The Branch's website. Students who are accepted into and complete the spring 2022 program will receive a \$500 scholarship.

"The Branch asks students from around the region to solve complex problems and to be entrepreneurial while connecting to the companies that need this local talent." said Dave Eckmann, President/CEO of the Greater Wausau Chamber of Commerce. "We live in a very talent-competitive economy and will for the next 25 years, making this program very important to develop and retain the young members of our community."

To view student and mentor testimonials and to watch videos from the program's several Demo Day events, visit <u>The</u> Branch's YouTube channel.

AROW Global Corp, Ansay & Associates LLC, Church Mutual Insurance Company, S.I., the Greater Wausau Chamber of Commerce, Incredible Bank, M3 Insurance, North Central Health Care, Ruder Ware LLSC and Westphal Staffing Inc are sponsors of the program. UWSP at Wausau and the Wausau River District are program partners.

For more information or to register as a coach for a team, visit <u>The Branch's website</u>. Businesses that are interested in becoming involved with the program can also register projects through the <u>site</u> or contact Brian Otten, marketing manager at the Chamber, at <u>botten@wausauchamber.com</u> or 715-848-5947.



Firefighters use virtual reality for training



The program is not a replacement for field training but does give firefighters feedback when they complete tasks

By Hannah Borchert

Published: Feb. 15, 2022 at 7:30 PM CST

MERRILL, Wis. (WSAW) - Every call to respond to a fire is a dangerous task. That's why fire departments have started using virtual reality to enhance their training. It allows them to practice responding to intense situations without the pressure.

North Central Technical College partnered with GTI, a technology company, to host the virtual reality firefighter training. Students trained with firefighters from Merrill and Wausau fire departments.

"The closer you got to a fire you were able to hear it crackling. They had background noises so you heard birds chirping or different background noises that may be distractions," said John Kraegenbrink, firefighter/paramedic, Merrill Fire Department.

He said as real as it felt, it can't replace training in the field.

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"Truly being one on one in a full dress scenario is a totally different experience," said Kraegenbrink.

For students at North Central Technical College, it's the next closest thing to field training.

"We found it super important to include virtual reality as a simulation in training and education especially during the pandemic where we are seeing reduced opportunities," said Shane Heilmann, School of Public Safety Dean, NTC.

Heilmann said many students couldn't go to clinical sites like they normally would attend. Heilmann said even though it can't fully replace those experiences, it can help them when they enter the workforce.

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Wausau Pilot & Review

More news. Less fluff. All local.

BI7 BRIFFS

D.C. Everest student receives full-ride machine tool program scholarship

February 17, 2022

SCHOFIELD — Central Wisconsin Manufacturing Alliance has awarded its first annual Adversity Champion Scholarship to D.C. Everest Senior High School senior Cody Klobucnik, CWIMA announced this week.

Klobucnik is an aspiring machine tool student but excels in other areas, honing his skills in welding and auto mechanics. He will attend a 2-year machine tool program at Northcentral Technical College this fall, fully funded by the CWIMA Adversity Champion Scholarship.

"My family's always been there for me," Klobucnik said in a news release. "They've done everything they could. My parents have always grown me up to do things for myself and now, finally, being able to do the things I love. And going to this college, where I'm going to be able to learn more and all the people who have supported me all the way have really inspired me."

CWIMA promotes and creates educational awareness and career opportunities in the machining, welding, fabrication and manufacturing-related trades.



College students received a special surprise for "Random Acts of Kindness' day

Adriana Daniel Feb 17, 2022 Updated Feb 18, 2022 💂 0

WAUSAU, WI. (WAOW)-- Across the country people are rolling up their sleeves to bring 'Acts of Kindness' to their neighbors.



Here in the badger state, residents at the Primrose Retirement Community surprised students at Northcentral Technical College (NTC). Bringing students goodie bags filled with different kinds of candy and for some lucky students Amazon gift cards.

"Everyone this day in age needs some warm fuzzies, so why not us to pass that along," Primrose Executive Assistant Deb Meisel said.

Meisel said the residents wanted to bring a smile to the students' faces and help them think about something other than school for a few minutes.

Jake Denzine Architectural Design student at NTC said the gift was unexpected.

"It made me feel really good inside actually it was just nice. I wasn't expecting that coming out," Denzine said.

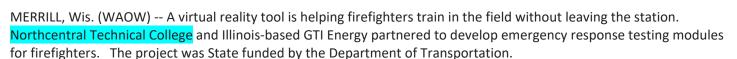


Virtual reality serving as another tool in fire safety training

By: Elyssia Gaffney Feb 15, 2022 Updated Feb 16, 2022







Each module simulates an emergency situation on a highway with vehicles.

Trainees are asked a set of question as they navigate the fire.

"This module can be a turned over car, a rollover like this one was... It can be a cargo type truck and then third module is a train derailment..." explained Ray Deatherage, GTI Energy Education and Training Director.

But it is not set to replace hands-on field training.

"We've done simulators on the computer where we've walked through a scenario where you just kind of point and click. It was a lot more interactive where you have your set of hands," said John Kraegenbrink Firefighter and Paramedic with the Merrill Fire Department.

They are hoping it offers a modern alternative to training if they are unable to train outside.

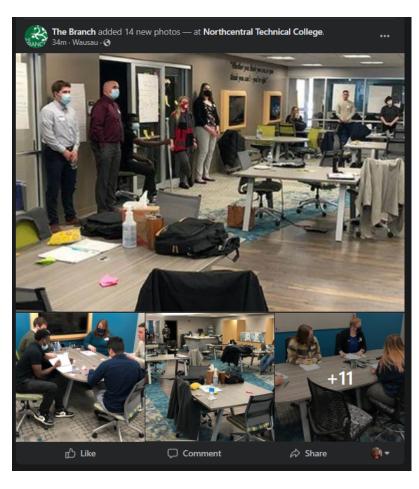
"It's also a technology that the newer generation is familiar with, they embrace," said Deatherage, "You can take those lessons learned from a senior first responders and you can program them into technology like this."

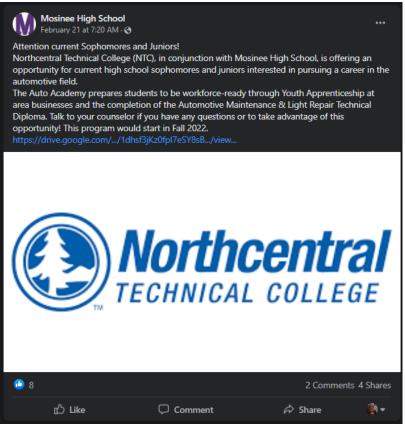
Kraegenbrink said he is excited to try it out with the rest of the department.

The Merrill and Wausau fire crews took home headsets to review and provide feedback for the modules, hoping to develop more in the future.

NTC are also developing academic program modules for future students.

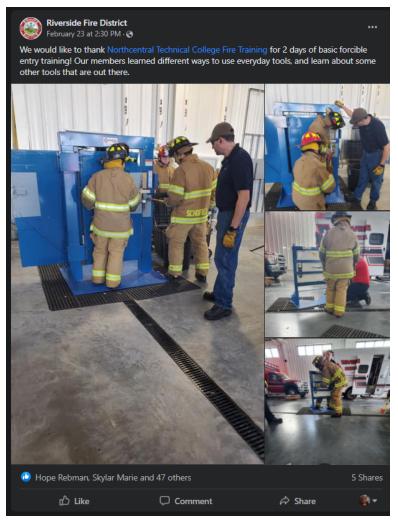
Social Media

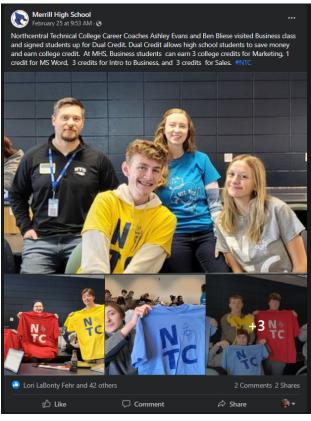






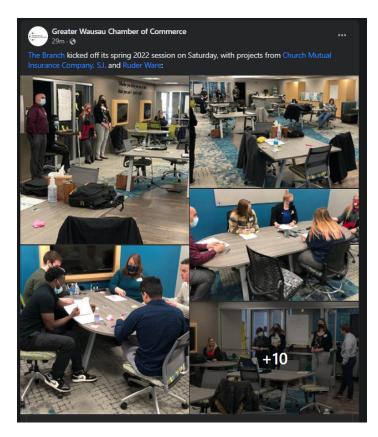


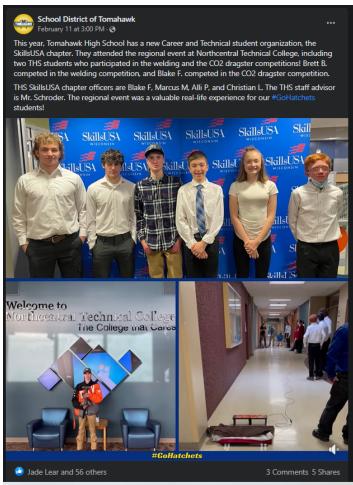






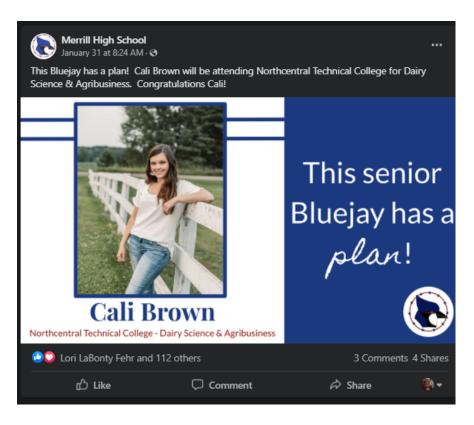


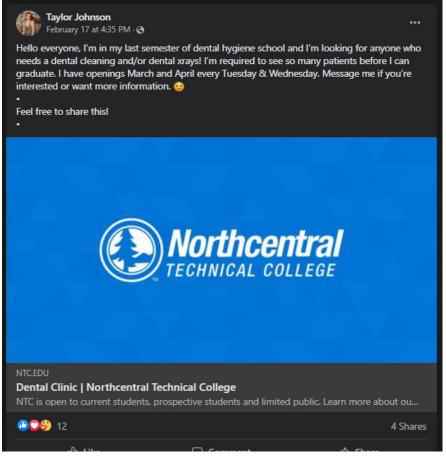


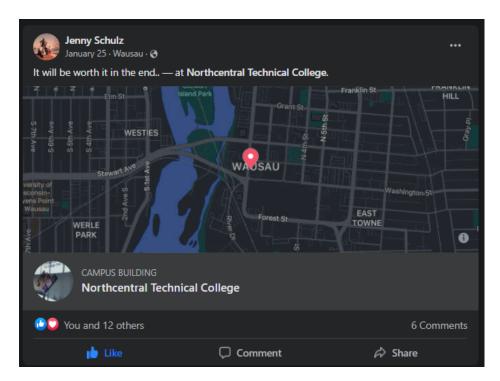


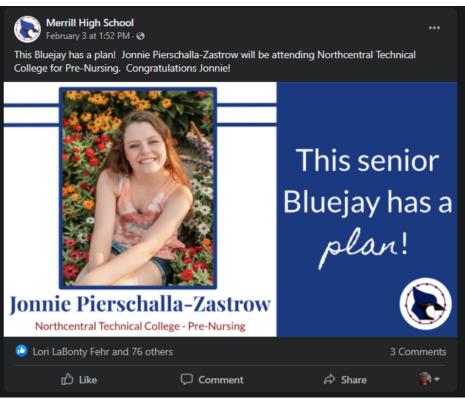


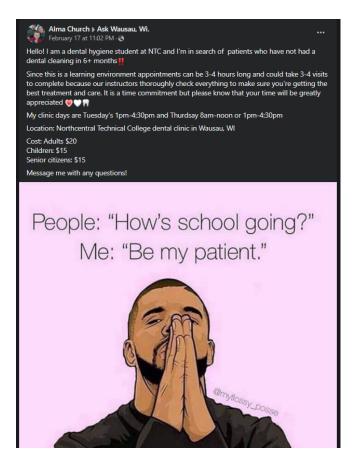




















How did we impact you? Well, let us tell you a little story with this stat for the month of January: 25 different men and women from your Crandon Fire Department spent a total of 95.5 hours doing in house training last month.

Yes you read that right. 25 people, 95.5 hours, 1 small town fire department.

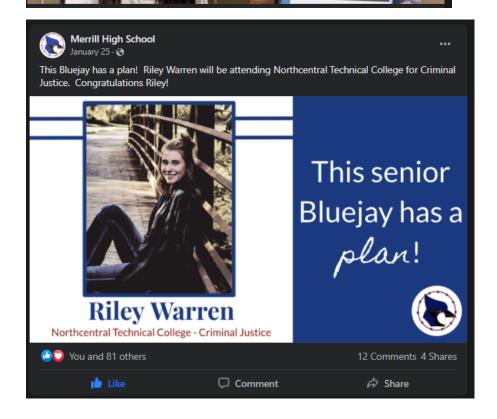
One of those is a probationary firefighter taking Firefighter 1 with Northcentral Technical College Fire Training and another is taking Fire Officer 2 with Nicolet Area Technical College and they together spent another 20+ hours in classes.

Why you ask? Because we care about one another and about you in our community. And we want to set the example for the next person to walk through the door who wants to do the same.







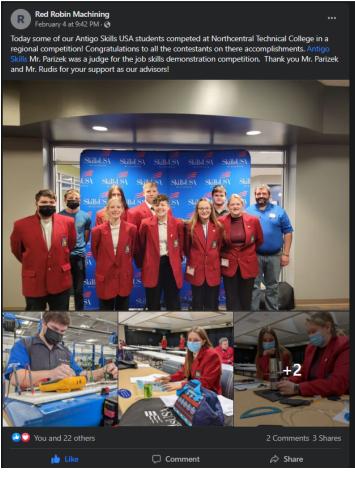








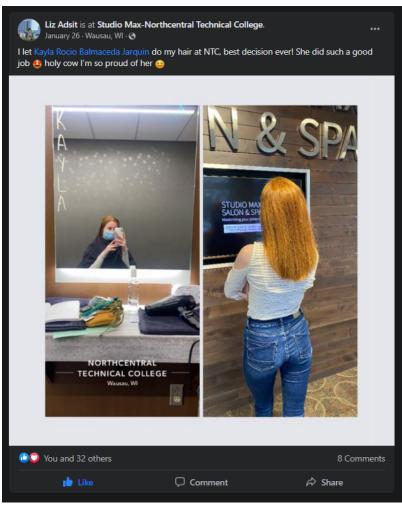








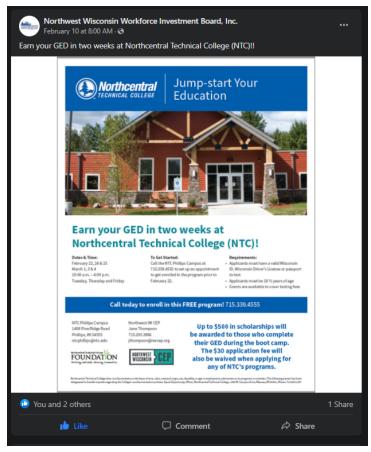




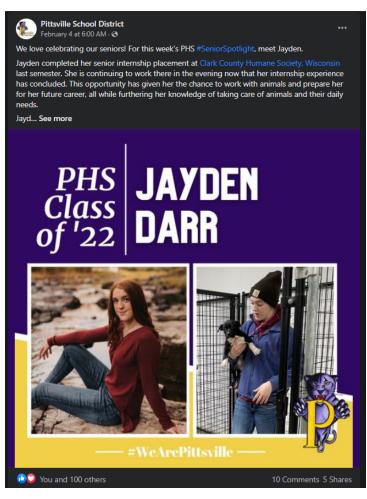




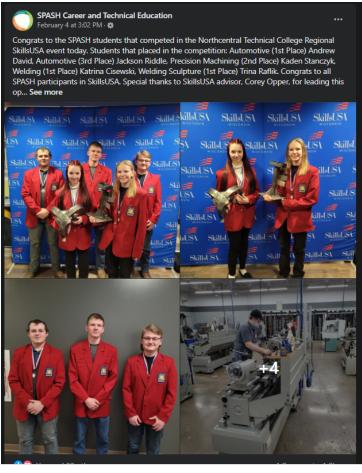


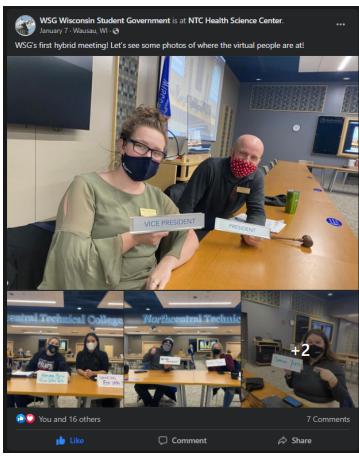


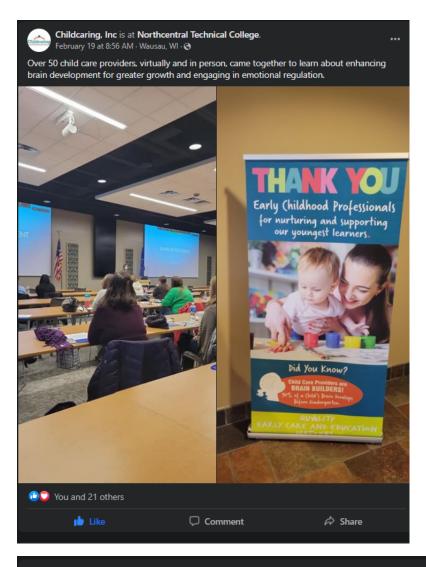


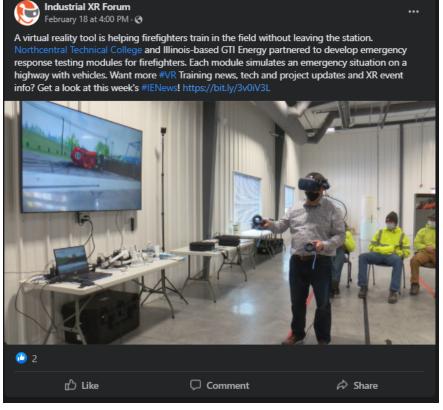


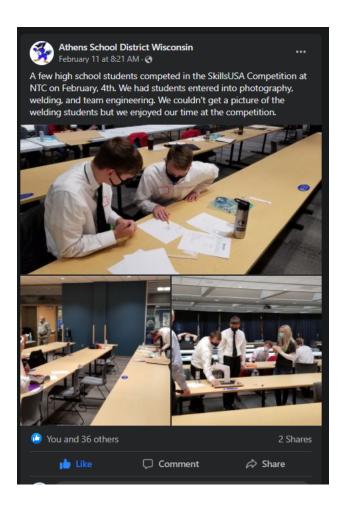














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WSAW (CBS) 2/2/2022 5:40:48 AM Wausau, WI

Sunrise 7

Local Viewership: 3,770

Local Publicity Value: \$89.94

to go there or not. but make sure you get that fafsa filed as soon as you can. eckendorf says not doing it is where she sees students lose out on money most. northcentral technical college is extending a waiver of their application fee. it saves applicants \$30- dollars. if you or someone you know is thinking about applying, now's a good time. applicants can meet with a career coach, take a tour, and meet with a financial aid specialist. we have all the links you need it's you're taking a live look from our skycam on top of the news channel 7 studio. ahead on sunrise 7... while the crowd has dwindled.. plenty of truckers still remain to protest in canada. we'll have the latest coming up. plus... another look at our



WAOW (ABC) 2/15/2022 6:02:36 PM

Wausau, WI

News 9 WAOW at 6PM

Local Viewership: 28,283 Local Publicity Value: \$973.56

and click. it was a lot more interactive where you have your set of hands." the technology is funded through the state department of transportation. northcentral technical college and g-t-i energy manages and one was. it can be a cargo type truck and then third module is a train derailment. .." kraegenbrink says this will not replace on-the-job training but can act as an alternative when they are unable to perform the training outside. and the g-t-i training director thinks it brings the history of fire safety training into a new age. r: "its also a technology that the newer generation is familiar with, they embrace. merging it with the experience



KBOI (CBS) 2/16/2022 6:55:56 AM

Boise, ID

KBOI 2 News This Morning

Local Viewership: 5,942 Local Publicity Value: \$411.75

completely missed. it. also teaches what protective equipment you need for each situation. >>you're able to actually grab your fire gear off of the shelf. >>northcentral technical college partnered with dti to put on the training for firefighters and students. the public safety deon told me he thinks this is just the beginning. >>we found it super important to include virtual reality as simulation and training education, especially during the pandemic where we are seeing reduced opportunities. >>he says many students couldn't go to clinical sites like they normally would attend, even though it can't replace those experience says it can be the next closest thing.



WFRV (CBS) 2/17/2022 6:12:40 AM

Green Bay, WI

Local 5 This Morning

Local Viewership: 2,752 Local Publicity Value: \$102.15

type of training out in the field as as first responders are are trying to make the scene safe and then trying to train others. >> the training was held for firefighters and students at northcentral technical college. the students being exposed to the training being able to help on the job in the future. all right. let's take a look at our storm team. 5 skyview cam overlooking in sturgeon bay. right now it is a chilly 18 degrees. are we going to see any sunshine today or any snowflakes?

WLUK (FOX) 2/20/2022 6:52:36 AM

Green Bay, WI Good Day Wisconsin

Good Day Wisconsin

Local Viewership: 8,570 Local Publicity Value: \$304.58



they completely messed. it also teaches what protective equipment you need for each situation. >>you're able to actually grab your fair year off of the shelf. >>northcentral technical college partnered with dti to put on the training for firefighters and students. the public safety deon told me he thinks this is just the beginning. >>we found it super important to include virtual reality as simulation and training education, especially during the pandemic where we are seeing reduced opportunities. >>he says many students couldn't go to clinical sites like they normally would attend, even though it can't replace those experience says it can be the next closest thing.



WAOW (ABC) 2/23/2022 6:08:05 PM

Wausau, WI

News 9 WAOW at 6PM

Local Viewership: 24,586

Local Publicity Value: \$936.92

mostly because of what we can't get or can't afford. but an area college is seeing a lot of new students in a program aiming to fix that. northcentral technical college reports an increase of students pursuing degrees in supply chain management. they only started the program in spring of 20-18. this year -- enrollment went up 30-percent compared to just two years ago. "and we're seeing a shift in that demographics to people who are starting to see the value in moving into supply chain and are currently not working in the field but are looking to get into that role in the future." kurt swanson - one of the program's teachers - says employers are looking

Items in this report: 6

Total Local Viewership: 73,903

Total Local Market Publicity Value: \$2,818.89

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